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REASONS

Humbly Offer'd

By the Company Exerciſing the Trade and Myſtery of UPHOLDERS,

Againſt Part of the BILL, *For the better Viewing, Searching, and Examining* DRUGS, MEDICINES, *&c.*

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February 8 1955.

REASONS

Humbly Offer'd

By the Company exerciſing the Trade and Miſtery of UPHOLDERS, againſt Part of the BILL, *For the better Viewing, Searching and Examining Drugs, Medicines*, &c.

BEING call'd upon by ſeveral Retailers and Diſpenſers of Drugs and Medicines about Town, to uſe our Endeavours againſt the Bill now depending, *for Viewing*, &c. In Regard of our common Intereſt, and in Gratitude to the ſaid Retailers and Diſpenſers of Medicines (which we have always found to be very

very effectual) we presume to lay the following Reasons before the Publick, against the said Bill.

That the Company of Upholders *are far from being averse to the giving of Drugs and Medicines in general*, provided they may be of such Qualities as we require, and administer'd by such Persons in whom our Company justly repose the greatest Confidence: And provided they tend to the Encouragement of Trade, and the Consumption of the Woolen Manufacture of this Kingdom.

We beg Leave to observe, that *there hath been no Complaint from any of the Nobility, Gentry and Citizens whom we have attended.* Our Practice, which consists chiefly in outward Applications, having been always so effectual, that one of our Patients have been oblig'd to undergo a second Operation. Excepting one Gentlewoman; who, after her first Burial, having farthen'd her Husband with a new Brood of posthumous Children, her second Funeral was by us perform'd without any further Charges to the

the ſaid Husband of the deceas'd. And we humbly hope, that one ſingle Inſtance of this Kind (a Misfortune owing meerly to the Avarice of a Sexton in cutting off a Ring) will not be imputed to any Want of Skill, or Care in our Company.

We humbly conceive, that this *Power by this Bill lodged in the Cenſors of the College of Phyſicians*, to reſtrain any of His Majeſty's Subjects from diſpenſing, and well-diſpoſed Perſons from taking what Medicines they pleaſe, *is a manifeſt Encroachment on the Liberty and Property of the Subjects.*

As the Company exerciſing the Trade and Miſtery of Upholders, have an undiſputed Right in and upon the Bodies of all and every the Subjects of the Kingdom; we conceive the paſſing of this Bill, though not abſolutely depriving them of their ſaid Right, might keep them out of Poſſeſſion by unreaſonable Delays, to the great Detriment of our Company and their numerous Families.

We

We hope it will be conſider'd that there are Multitudes of neceſſitous Heirs and penurious Parents, Perſons in pinching Circumſtances, with numerous Families of Children, Wives that have lived long, many robuſt aged Women with great Jointures, elder Brothers with bad Underſtandings, ſingle Heirs of great Eſtates, whereby the Collateral Line are for ever excluded, Reverſionary Patents, and Reverſionary Promiſes of Preferments, Leaſes upon Single Lives, and Play-debts upon joint Lives, and that the Perſons ſo agrieved have no Hope of being ſpeedily relieved any other Way, than by the diſpenſing of Drugs and Medicines in the Manner they now are; Burying alive being judg'd repugnant to the known Laws of this Kingdom.

That there are many of the Deceaſed, who by certain mechanical Motions and Powers are carried about Town, who would have been put into our Hands long before this Time by any other well-ordered Government; by want of a

due

due Police in this Particular, our Company have been great Sufferers.

That frequent Funerals contribute to preſerve the Genealogies of Families, and the Honours conferred by the Crown, (which are no where ſo well illuſtrated as on this ſolemn Occaſion;) to maintain neceſſitous Clergy, to enable the Clerks to appear in decent Habits to officiate on *Sundays*, to feed the great Retinue of ſober and melancholy Men who appear at the ſaid Funerals, and who muſt ſtarve without conſtant and regular Employment. Moreover we deſire it may be remember'd, that by the paſſing of this Bill the Nobility and Gentry will have their old Coaches lie upon their Hands, which are now employed by our Company.

And we further hope that frequent Funerals will not be diſcouraged (as is by this Bill propoſed) it being the only Method left of *carrying* ſome People to Church.

We are afraid that by the Hardſhips of this

Bill our Company will be reduced to leave their Buſineſs here, and *practiſe at* York *and* Briſtol, *where the free Uſe of bad Medicines will be ſtill allowed.*

It is therefore hoped that no ſpecious Pretence whatſoever will be thought ſufficient to introduce an Arbitrary and unlimited Power for People to live (in Defiance of Art) as long as they can by the Courſe of Nature, to the Prejudice of our Company, and the Decay of Trade.

That as our Company are like to ſuffer in ſome meaſure by the Power given to Phyſicians to diſſect the Bodies of Malefactors, we humbly hope that the Manufacture of Caſes for Skeletons will be reſerved ſolely to the Coffin-makers.

We likewiſe humbly preſume that the Intereſts of the ſeveral Trades and Profeſſions which depend upon ours, may be regarded; ſuch as that of the Makers of Hearſes, Coaches, Coffins, Epitaphs, and Bell-ropes; Stone-cutters, Feather-

Feather-men and Bell-ringers; and eſpecially the Manufacturers of Crapes; and the Makers of Snuff, who uſe great Quantities of old-Coffins, and who, conſidered in the Conſumption of their Drugs, employ by far the greateſt Number of Hands of any Manufacture of the Kingdom.

FINIS.